Please remember that questions submitted prior to the entry deadline of 31 October that were not answered in the FAQ must be resubmitted.

DBF Q&A #3 23 Nov 2008

Note:

Q: It states in the rules that "Store release sequence will be defined by the flight line officials and briefed to the pilot immediately before flight. Store release sequence will be dependent on wind/take-off direction and may vary from flight to flight." Can we assume that the release sequence will not allow for 2 rockets on one wing and none on the other? Also, will the drop sequence be random, or will there be two sequences, one for a right hand pattern and one for a left hand pattern?

A: The store release pattern will be defined to maximize safety for observers and facilities. It will be dependent on flight patterns but will not be random from team to team or flight to flight.

Q: Is there any more free software (besides Solid Works) available for design or analysis specifically for registered DBF teams?

A: Any special offers that have been presented to the DBF organizing committee are listed on the web site.

Q: In FAQ #1, it is stated that the boxes must be self-supporting Would two cradles of rigid foam covering each wingtip but not any other part of the plane be an acceptable substitute to conventional box structures, provided that they maintain their structure at all times?

A: No, the boxes must be a "box" not just a support, meaning they must be fully closed on all sides.

Q: Can each team's ground crew arrange the boxes before aircraft assembly begins, or will teams not be allowed to touch the boxes beforehand? Similar question for when the rocket loading begins. If not, how will the boxes be arranged by the contest officials?

A: There will be a specified location for the boxes and the ground crew at the start and end of the timed events.

Q: The rules state we can add fairings to the bottle such that its total length does not exceed 15 in. However, no mention is made if teams may add to the width/diameter of the bottle – and if so, to what maximum dimension?

A: The rules do not specify any limit on protrusions from the sides of the fuel tank/bottle, however the tank/bottle must be installed with it's axis of symmetry fore-aft as stated in Q&A #1

Q: How far will each plane be required to taxi during the payload release mission; i.e., what is the distance a plane must travel from the finish line to the designated drop area back to the starting line?

A: Exact location of the drop area will be determined at the contest based on the orientation best suited to the facilities.

Q:

A: